

Message Text

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ACTION L-03

INFO OCT-01 ARA-06 ISO-00 SSO-00 NSCE-00 USIE-00 INRE-00

CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-02 INR-07 NSAE-00 NSC-05

PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 MC-02 ACDA-07 AID-05 IGA-02

OMB-01 TRSE-00 /064 W

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FM AMEMBASSY CARACAS

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 4491

SECDEF WASHDC IMMEDIATE

INFO USCINCSO

C O N F I D E N T I A L CARACAS 10226

SECDEF FOR ISA

EO 11652 GDS

TAGS: MASS VE

SBUJ: IMPLEMENTATION OF NEW STATUTORY CONDITION OF ELIGIBILITY
FOR MILITARY ASSISTANCE AND TRAINING

REF: STATE 196640(NOTAL)

1. FOLLOWING INSTRUCTIONS REF, EMBASSY OFFICIALLY PRESENTED
DIPLOMATIC NOTE, DRAWING ON MODEL PRESENTED REF, TO FOREIGN
MINISTRY ON AUG 11. AT SAME TIME, EMBOFFS MADE SEPARATE
PRESENTATIONS TO VICE MINISTER AND TO WORKING-LEVEL OFFICIALS
OF FOREIGN MINISTRY ON BASIS TALKING POINTS PROVIDED TO US. WE
ALSO INDICATED THAT, IN THE CASE OF VENEZUELA, CURRENT
TRAINING PROGRAMS, AMOUNTING TO APPROXIMATELY \$100,000 WOULD BE
IN SUSPENSE PENDING AN AFFIRMATIVE REPLY BY THE GOV TO OUR
NOTE. CONCURRENTLY, THEMILGP ALSO DISCUSSED THIS ISSUE IN
DETAIL WITH VENEZUELAN MOD, MAKING SAME POINTS. MILGP ALSO
SUBMITTED DETAILED LIST OF TRAINING WHICH WOULD BE AFFECTED
PENDING GOV CONCURRENCE.

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2. TO DATE FOREIGN MINISTRY HAS NOT REPLIED, AND MILGP OFFICIALS HAVE BEEN INFORMED UNOFFICIALLY BY AIR FORCE OFFICERS THAT BOTH AIR FORCE COMMANDING GENERAL AND MINISTER OF DEFENSE HAVE DECIDED THAT IT WILL NOT RECOMMEND TO FOREIGN MINISTRY THAT VENEZUELAN GOVT GIVE US WRITTEN ASSURANCE REQUESTED IN OUR DIPLOMATIC NOTE BECAUSE THE LANGUAGE OF THE NOTE COULD BE INTERPRETED AS AN AFFRONT TO VENEZUELAN DIGNITY AND SOVEREIGNTY. WE TEND TO GIVE CREDENCE TO THIS INFORMATION SINCE BOTH THESE OFFICERS ARE SENSITIVE TO PERCEIVED SLIGHTS TO VENEZUELAN NATIONAL DIGNITY.

3. COMMENT/ACTION REQUESTED: TO FORESTALL THE POSSIBILITY OF A NEGATIVE RESPONSE AND IN THE EVENT IT BECOMES ABUNDANTLY CLEAR THAT SUCH WILL BE THE CASE, WE WONDER WHETHER THE LEGISLATIVE REQUIREMENTS OF AMENDED SECTION 505 (A) OF THE FAA THAT "WE OBTAIN AGREEMENT FOR EACH RECIPIENT..." COULD BE SATISFIED BY OTHER KINDS OF WRITTEN OR ORAL ASSURANCES. WE BELIEVE THAT IT IS POSSIBLE THAT WE MIGHT BE ABLE TO OBTAIN ORAL ASSURANCES, OR SOME FORM OF INFORMAL WRITTEN ASSURANCE SUCH AS A MEMO FROM THE MOD TO MILGP ABOUT DOUBT, AS NOTED ABOVE, THAT THE GOV MAY BE AMENABLE TO GIVING FORMAL WRITTEN ASSURANCES WHICH THEY INTERPRETE AS A SLIGHT TO THEIR NATIONAL HONOR AND DIGNITY. PLEASE ADVISE ASAP.
VAKY

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